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84TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. RES. 134

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

July 14, 1955

Mr. Green, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported the following original resolution; which was ordered to be placed on the calendar

July 18, 1955 Considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

- Whereas various nations are setting off an increasing number of nuclear explosions; and
- Whereas the number of such explosions is more likely to increase than decrease in the foresecable future; and
- Whereas it has been established that the radioactivity released as a result of such explosions can have serious deleterious effects, from an immediate and long-range standpoint, on human beings and other living organisms; and
- Whereas existing knowledge of the effects of such explosions on living organisms is very incomplete: Now, therefore, be it
- 1 Resolved, That the Senate endorses efforts of our chief
- 2 delegate to the United Nations to take appropriate steps to
- 3 work to establish within the United Nations procedures to
- 4 receive, assemble, and report on radiological information
- 5 collected by the various states with particular emphasis on
- 6 radiation effects on human health and safety.

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84TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. RES. 134

RESOLUTION

Relative to the United Nations establishing a procedure for collecting and releasing radiological information.

By Mr. Green

July 14, 1955.

Ordered to be placed on the calendar

July 18, 1955.

Considered and agreed to

Calendar No. 875

84TH CONGRESS 1st Session

SENATE

REPORT No. 868

RELATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ESTABLISHING A PROCEDURE FOR COLLECTING AND RELEASING RADI-OLOGICAL INFORMATION

July 14, 1955.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. Green, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. Res. 134]

The Committee on Foreign Relations, having had under consideration Senate Concurrent Resolution 22, relating to the effects of nuclear explosions on human health and safety, reports in lieu thereof an original Senate resolution (S. Res. 134) and recommends that it do pass.

1. MAIN PURPOSE OF THE RESOLUTION

The main purpose of the resolution is to express the Senate's interest in studies of the effect of nuclear radiation on human health and safety and to support efforts to establish United Nations procedures for

assembling information resulting from such studies.

Specifically, the resolution "endorses efforts of our chief delegate to the United Nations to take appropriate steps to work to establish within the United Nations procedures to receive, assemble and report on radiological information collected by the various States with particular emphasis on radiation effects on human health and safety."

2. BACKGROUND

As set forth in the preamble, the resolution is based on the facts that:

1. The number of nuclear explosions, set off by various nations, is increasing and is more likely to continue to increase than to decrease.

2. Radioactivity released by such explosions can have serious deleterious effects, both immediate and long-range, on human beings

and other living organisms.

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2 COLLECTING AND RELEASING RADIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

3. Existing knowledge of the effects of such explosions on living

organisms is very incomplete.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 22 was introduced April 13, 1955. by Senator Payne for himself and Senators Barrett, Beall, Capehart, Cotton, Duff, Douglas, Flanders, Fulbright, Green, Humphrey, Ives. Kefauver, Kilgore, Langer, Mansfield, McNamara, Monroney, Morse, Murray, Neely, Neuberger, Potter, Robertson, Sparkman, Stennis, Symington, and Welker. It requested the President to "instruct our chief delegate to the United Nations to take whatever steps may be necessary to propose and urge the formation of an international scientific commission within the United Nations to study and determine the effects on living organisms of radioactivity released by nuclear explosions.

Subsequently, on June 22, during the anniversary meeting of the U. N. General Assembly in San Francisco, Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., Chief United States Delegate to the U. N., issued a statement expressing the belief of the United States that the next General Assembly "should establish a procedure to receive and assemble radiological information collected by the various states, as well as the results of national studies of radiation effects on human health and

safety.

On July 12, this Senate committee considered the matter in executive session with Senator Payne who suggested that a Senate resolution be reported instead of a concurrent resolution so as to obviate the need for House action. Senator Payne also suggested changes in the substantive part of the resolution to bring it into line with the Lodge proposal.

3. CONCLUSION

The committee believes that action of the sort proposed in the resolution here reported would be helpful in collating and disseminating such information as is available on the problem of atomic fallout. The resolution, which is approved by the Department of State, would put the Senate on record in support of the efforts of the executive branch to this end, and the committee recommends that the Senate take favorable action.

In view of recent developments in the field of atomic energy there is no question about the importance of the problem covered by this resolution. The committee believes the United States should cooperate with other countries in setting up proper procedures so that available data may be assembled and the problem better understood.

84TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. RES. 134

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JULY 14, 1955

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84TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

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JULY 14, 1955 Ordered to be placed on the calendar JULY 18, 1955 Considered and agreed to

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84TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. RES. 134

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[Report No. 868]

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